

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows.

Please replace paragraph [0069] with the following:

[0069] In a further example alternative embodiment, a steerable array antenna is implemented in the transit link antenna system 52. Phase weights or complex weights including both phase components and amplitude components, required to steer a peak in an array antenna gain pattern toward a neighbouring network node, are determined. In a preferred implementation of this embodiment, a network node stores a lookup table that includes phase weights or complex weights for each transit link with each of its neighbouring network nodes. When a transit link with a neighbouring network node is selected at the network node, the phase weights or complex weights for that transit link are determined and applied to excitation signals of the array antenna to steer a beam of the array antenna toward the neighbouring network node. Further details of beam steering are provided in the co-pending U.S. patent application Ser. No. ~~Attorney Docket No. 77682-211~~ 10/682,090, entitled "System And Method Of Operation Of An Array Antenna In A Distributed Wireless Communication Network", filed of even date herewith, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

Please replace paragraph [0070] with the following:

[0070] In another embodiment, the transit link antenna system 52 includes an auxiliary antenna port for connection to an auxiliary antenna. An auxiliary antenna may provide, for example, one or more of higher gain, a higher degree of directionality, and a higher data rate than other transit link antenna elements. An antenna detector, in the communications controller 46 or the transit link antenna system 52, for example, is configured to automatically detect whether or not an auxiliary antenna is coupled to the auxiliary antenna port. When detected, the auxiliary antenna is treated as another transit link antenna element or segment. The co-pending U.S. patent application Ser. No. ~~Attorney Docket No. 77682-215~~ 10/682,092, entitled "Method And Apparatus For Enhancing Link Range In A Wireless Network Using A Self-Configurable Antenna", filed of even date herewith, provides further details of such an auxiliary antenna. The entire contents of that co-pending application are hereby incorporated by reference.

Please replace paragraph [0081] with the following:

[0081] Thus, asynchronous operation at 126 and rendezvous operation at 130 involve aspects of the present invention. Although discovery operations may be desirable, to simplify distributed network configuration, transit link coordination and other aspects of the invention are in no way restricted to network nodes enabled for self discovery and/or re-discovery. Further details of self discovery and re-discovery techniques are provided, for example, in the co-pending United States Patent Application Serial No. ~~Attorney Docket No. 71493-1196~~ 10/682,084, entitled "Distributed Multi-Beam Wireless System", filed of even date herewith, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.